कृषि वैज्ञानिक चयन मंडल
(कृषि अनुसन्धान एवं शिक्षा विभाग)
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत,सरकार
चयन भवन, पूसा कॅम्पस, नई दिल्ली - 110012
AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS RECRUITMENT BOARD
(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION)
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
Chayan Bhavan, Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012

सत्यमेव जयते

F.No. 1(1)/2025-Exam

Dated the 24th February, 2025

NOTIFICATION FOR COMBINED
NATIONAL ELIGIBILITY TEST (NET), AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE (ARS), SUBJECT MATTER SPECIALIST (SMS) (T-6) & SENIOR TECHNICAL OFFICER (STO) (T-6) EXAMINATION - 2025

The Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB) will hold a Combined Examination for National Eligibility Test (NET), Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) (T-6) and Senior Technical Officer (STO) (T-6) Examination-2025 as per the Rules and Plans of Examination indicated in this notification as at Section (A), (B) and (C).

IMPORTANT DATES*:

Submission of online application form starts on	22nd April, 2025 (01:00 PM)
Last date and time for final submission of online application form after making online fee payment	21st May, 2025 (11.59 PM)
Combined Computer Based Test (CBT)# for NET-2025 &Preliminary Examination for ARS/ SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6)-2025	2nd – 4th September, 2025
Combined Mains@ (Descriptive) Examination for ARS/ SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6)-2025	7th December, 2025

** Subject to change*

 # Combined CBT is being conducted for following three examinations:

(a) NET-2025

(b) Preliminary Examination for ARS-2025

(c) Preliminary Examination for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025

@ Combined Mains (Descriptive) examination is being conducted for following two examinations:

(a) Mains Examination for ARS-2025

(b) Mains Examination for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025

2. CENTRES:-

- The Centres where the Combined CBT for NET-2025 & Preliminary Examination for ARS/ SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6)-2025 will be conducted are mentioned in **Annexure-II.**
- The Centres where the Combined Mains (Descriptive) Examination for ARS/ SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6)-2025 will be conducted are mentioned in **Annexure- III.**

The Centres and date(s) of holding the examination as mentioned above could be changed at the discretion of ASRB. Candidates must select the centres of examination carefully while submitting their online application for the examination. No request for change of centre shall be entertained at later stage. There may be more than one venue at any/ all centres depending upon the number of candidates registered for the examination.

3. APPLICATION FEE: -

S. No.	Category of candidate	For NET only (₹)	For ARS/ SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6) or any combination of this three (₹)	For NET with any combination of ARS/ SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6) (₹)
1	Unreserved (UR)	1000	1000	2000
2	Economically Weaker Section (EWS)/ Other Backward Class (OBC)	500	800	1300
3	Scheduled Caste (SC)/ Scheduled Tribe (ST)/ Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) / Women/ Transgender	250	NIL	250

As the candidates can exercise their option for being considered either for NET only or ARS only orSMS only or STO only or any combination of the four, the application fee shall be paid by the candidates depending upon the option they exercised.

Transaction charges for Debit Card/Credit Card/Net Banking/ UPI payment, as the case may be, have to be borne by the candidate.

The fee must be paid through *Bharatkosh* (bharatkosh.gov.in) as per instruction given in **Annexure-I**. Mere Payment of fees in *Bharatkosh* without successful submission of application form (till the last date and time for submission of online application form) will not be considered. Neither such fee would be refunded nor kept in reserve for any other examination/purpose.

4. HOW TO APPLY:-

A candidate seeking admission to the examination must apply online in the prescribed Application Form available on the website: https://www.asrb.org.in. Important Instructions to the candidates for filling online application are given in **Annexure-I**.

Candidate must read the provisions, contained in this Notification carefully and shall abide by the same. Candidate must fulfill all the conditions of eligibility regarding age-limits, educational qualifications, etc. prescribed for admission to the examination.

The candidates are not required to attach copy of any of the documents/certificates in support of their candidature at the time of submission of online application. The candidates in their own interest must satisfy themselves about their eligibility for the examination. In the event of ineligibility being detected by the Board at any stage, including after declaration of result, their candidature shall be cancelled.

As NET Certificate would be issued to the qualified candidates through DigiLocker app

only, due care should be taken by the candidates in filling up their application form.No request for change in any field i.e., Centre of Examination, Discipline, Name, Father's Name, Date of Birth, Gender, E-mail Id, Mobile No., Phone No., Category, Medium of Examination etc. will be considered under any circumstances. Candidates are, therefore, advised to be very careful while filling up their application forms.

5. **IMPORTANT NOTES:-**

i. Candidates are required to apply online only using the online application form link available on the website: http://www.asrb.org.in. No other mode of submission of application is allowed. Candidates must exercise their option in the Application Form for being considered either for NET only or ARS only or SMS (T-6) only or STO (T-6) only or any combination of the four.

ii. **Apart from NET, if a candidate opts for any combination of ARS/ SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6), then he/ she must indicate the order of preferences (in descending order) in the application form. Order of preferences once indicated by the candidate at the application stage will be treated as final and will not be changed subsequently under any circumstances.**

iii. Candidates must ensure that they fulfill all the eligibility conditions for admission to the examination such as the qualification, discipline, age, category, etc. Their admission to the examination will be purely provisional. If on verification at any later stage, it is found that they do not fulfill all eligibility conditions; their candidature will be cancelled/ rejected and fee paid for examination will be forfeited. The verification of the eligibility of the candidates for ARS, SMS (T-6) and STO (T-6) with respect to the documents submitted by them will be done before the conduct of interviews. The Board shall summarily reject the candidature of the candidate, if he/she does not fulfill the eligibility conditions.

iv. Candidates seeking reservation/ relaxation benefits available for SC/ST/OBC/EWS/ PwBD must ensure that they are entitled to such reservation/ relaxation as per eligibility prescribed in the Rules. They should be in possession of all the requisite certificates in the prescribed format in support of their claim as stipulated in the Rules for such benefits, and these certificates must be valid at the time of submission of the online application form for the examination.

v. The candidatesare not required to attach any certificates/ marksheets with the online application form. The candidates will be required to submit (upload) self-attested copies of documents/certificates in support of their candidature during the dates which would be announced at the time of declaration of the results of the Mains Examination for ARS/ SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6)-2025. A link will be provided on ASRB's website for the candidates to upload the requisite documents.

vi. In cases, where any certificates/documents submitted by the candidates in support of their eligibility as stipulated in the preceding paragraph, are not found as per prescribed formats, such candidates will not be given the opportunity to submit such certificates at a later date and consequently their eligibility will be scrutinized only as per the available documents/certificates. Accordingly, the candidates are advised to ensure, while submitting the documents that all the certificates/ documents are in the respective prescribed format as given in the **Appendices- I to V.** The documents/certificates in any language other than the Hindi or English will not be accepted. In such cases, the candidates must submit either the certificates/documents in Hindi/English or its translated copy duly attested by Notary Public.

vii. Candidates already in the Service of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Central/State Government/Scientific Institutions/Universities, whether in a permanent or a temporary capacity or as a work charged employee, other than a casual or daily rated employee, are required to submit No Objection Certificate/ Undertaking that they have informed in writing their Head of Office/Department that they have applied for the examination as given in **Appendix-V.**

viii. **OBC candidates whose caste is not listed in Central List (as available on National Commission for Backward Classes website www.ncbc.nic.in) and who are not covered under the provisions as applicable to OBC-Non Creamy Layer (NCL) candidates, shall be treated as General Category candidates for all purposes. Accordingly, OBC Candidates not belonging to OBC Non-Creamy Layer shall indicate their category as 'General'.**

ix. In case the claim of candidates regarding Age, Educational Qualifications, Economically Weaker Section (EWS)/ Scheduled Caste(SC)/ Scheduled Tribe (ST)/ Other Backward Class(OBC)/ Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) / being ICAR/ SAU/ CAU employee is found to be incorrect, it may render them liable to be disqualified by the Board / ICAR and their candidature will stand cancelled.

x. No candidate will be allowed to take the examination unless he/she holds a certificate of admission for the examination. After downloading the Admission Certificate, check it carefully and bring discrepancies/errors, if any, to the notice of the Board through e-mail to netarssmssto2025@asrb.org.in.

xi. No request for withdrawal of candidature/application received from a candidate after he/she has submitted his/her application will be entertained.

xii. The Admission Certificates would be made downloadable from the website: https://www.asrb.org.inonly about one week prior to the date of examination. Candidates are requested to visit the website: www.asrb.org.inregularly for updates. No other form of communication will be used for issue of admission certificates.

xiii. Only such EWS/SC/ST/OBC/PwBD candidates who are selected on the same general standards as applied to UR candidates shall be treated as own merit candidates. If any EWS/SC/ST/OBC/PwBD candidate qualifies after getting any relaxation in age or qualifying marks than what is prescribed for Unreserved category candidates, then such EWS/SC/ST/OBC/PwBD candidate shall be considered only against the reserved vacancies for the respective category and they shall not be considered for appointment against an unreserved vacancy.

xiv. The letters for Personal Interview ofARS/ SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6) shall be sent through e-mail and all instructions/information thereof will be indicated therein. No hard copy / letter will be sent for this purpose.

xv. The applicants are advised to regularly check the ASRB website https://www.asrb.org.in and e-mail provided in the Application Form for update(s)/ information/ communication with regard to the Examination. They must check the spam/junk/inbox/trash folders also of their mailbox. They are also advised to save the e-mail netarssmsto2025@asrb.org.in in contacts of their e-mail account so as the e-mails with attachments sent by this e-mail I.D do not go to the spam folder.

xvi. Syllabus for the examination is available on ASRB's website.

xvii. All communications in respect of an application made for this Examination should be addressed to the Examination Section, ASRB, Chayan Bhavan, Pusa Campus, New Delhi – 110012 or e-mail to netarssmssto2025@asrb.org.in and should invariably contain the following particulars:-

1. Name and year of Examination: **Combined National Eligibility Test (NET), Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) (T-6) and Senior Technical Officer (STO) (T-6) Examination-2025**
2. Name of candidate (In full and in Capital letters)
3. Registration No.
4. Centre of Examination
5. Roll No. (If communicated)
6. E mail id (as indicated in the Application Form)
7. Mobile number

Note: - Communication not containing the above particulars will not be attended to.

xviii. Please note that carrying Smart Mobile Phones/ pagers/ smart devices or any other communication device/ electronic gadget isabsolutely prohibited in the Examination Centre premises. Any infringement of this instruction can lead to disqualification of the candidate concerned. Candidates are advised in their own interest not to bring any of these item(s) to theExamination venue since the provision for their safe keeping cannot be assured. The candidates are also advised not to bring any valuable/costly items to the Examination Venue. The Board will not be responsible for any loss incurred due to non-adherence of these instructions.

xix. In case of any discrepancy between English and Hindi versions of the Notification/ advertisement/information, the English version as available on the Website of the Board will be treated as final.

xx. This notification is available on ASRB's Website: https://www.asrb.org.in

xxi. The candidates are required to bring along with them the original of the Photo Identity Card uploaded in the online application form and two photographs apart from the Admission Certificate to be issued by ASRB while coming for the Examination at all applicable stages including Personal Interview.In case the candidate does not present the original Photo Identity Card uploaded in the application form, he/she will not be allowed to take the examination/ Personal Interview under any circumstances.

xxii. Any attempt on the part of a candidate to obtain support for his candidature by any means may disqualify him/her for admission to the examination.

xxiii. **Provision of Scribe for PwBD candidates**:

(a) In case of persons with benchmark disabilities in the category of blindness, locomotor disability (both arms affected-BA) and cerebral palsy, the facility of scribe shall be given, if so desired by the candidate on production of original PwBD certificate at the examination centre. Provision of a scribe will be made by the ASRB on prior request made by such candidates ten(10) days before the examination on netarssmssto@asrb.org.in.The candidate has the discretion of opting his/ her scribe also under prior intimation to the Board [ten(10) days before the examination] on netarssmssto@asrb.org.in. Such candidates will be allowed compensatory time of 20 minutes per hour of the examination.

(b) In case of other category of persons with benchmark disabilities, the provision of

scribe can be allowed on production of original PwBD certificate to the effect that the person concerned has physical limitation to write and scribe is essential to write examination on his behalf, from the Chief Medical Officer/Civil Surgeon/ Medical Superintendent of a Government Health Care Institution as per Performa at Appendix – I of OM No.34-02/2015-DD-III dated 29th August, 2018 issued by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. Such candidates will be allowed compensatory time of 20 minutes per hour of the examination.

(c) The candidates mentioned in (a) & (b) above and not availing the facility of scribe will be allowed compensatory time of 20 minutes per hour of the examination on production of original certificate as mentioned above.

(d) The compensatory time of 20 minutes per hour of the examination is not admissible to other PwBD candidates who are not covered in (a) to (c) above.

xxiv. All the relevant guidelines and instructions issued by MHA/ National Disaster Management Authority shall be strictly followed.

xxv. A candidate who is or has been declared by the Board guilty of impersonation or of submitting fabricated documents or documents which have been tempered with or of making statements which are incorrect or false or of suppressing material information or otherwise resorting to any other irregular or improper means for obtaining admission to the examination, or of using or attempting to use unfair means or of misbehavior or misconduct in the examination hall, may, in addition to rendering himself/ herself liable to criminal prosecution and disqualification from the examination concerned:

a) Be debarred permanently or for a specific period,
   - By the Board, from admission to any examination or appearance at an interview held by the Board for selection of candidates and
   - By the Indian Council of Agricultural Research from Employment under them

b) Will be liable to disciplinary action under the appropriate rules, if he/she is already in service under Government/ Indian Council of Agricultural Research/Agricultural Universities.

xxvi. The decision of the ASRB / ICAR in all matters relating to eligibility, acceptance or rejection of the applications, penalty for false information, mode of selection, conduct of examination (s) and interview, allotment of examination centres, selection and allotment of posts to selected candidates will be final and binding on the candidates and no enquiry/correspondence will be entertained in this regard.

(RAKESH BHARDWAJ)
CONTROLLER OF EXAMINATIONS

ANNEXURE-I

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES FOR FILLING ONLINE APPLICATION FORM

i. Candidates are required to apply online only using the online application form link available on the website: https://www.asrb.org.in. No other mode of submission of application is allowed. Candidates must exercise their option in the Application Form for being considered either for NET only or ARS only or SMS (T-6) only or STO (T-6) only or any combination of the four.

ii. **Apart from NET, if a candidate opts for any combination of ARS/SMS (T-6)/STO (T-6), then he/ she must indicate the order of preferences (in descending order) in the application form. Order ofpreferences once indicated by the candidate at the application stage willbe treated as final and will not be changed subsequently under anycircumstances.**

iii. Candidates are hereby informed that the details provided inthe Online Application Form will be used for all future references and nomodification thereto can be done subsequently. Hence, they are advised tobe very careful while filling the Application Form. Candidates are requested to go through this Notification before filling the onlineApplication Form.

iv. Candidates should submit only one application form and exercise their option for the examination therein. In case multiple applications are received from a candidate, the latest application will be considered, ignoring all earlier one(s) received; without refunding/ adjusting any Application Fee received for the other Applications.

v. Candidates are required to complete the Application Form by filling all the parts for which they will be guided during the course of filling the Application Form.

vi. Candidates are required to keep ready the following relevant details /information / documents at the time of filling the online form:

a) Notification for Combined National Eligibility Test (NET), Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) (T-6) and Senior Technical Officer (STO) (T-6) Examination-2025
b) Name (as recorded in Matriculation/ Secondary level Examination certificate)
c) Father's name (as recorded in the Matriculation/ Secondary level Examination certificate)
d) Complete Address for Correspondence
e) Complete Permanent Address
f) Aadhaar Card
g) Matriculation/Secondary level Examination Certificate or equivalent Certificate and Marksheet
h) Senior Secondary level Examination Certificate or equivalent Certificate and Marksheet
i) Bachelor's Degree Certificate/Provisional Degree Certificate and Transcript/ Marksheets
j) Master's Degree Certificate/Provisional Degree Certificate and Transcript/ Marksheets
k) Doctorate Degree Certificate/Provisional Degree Certificate and Transcript/ Marksheet; if available

l) Centre opted for Combined CBT for NET-2025 & Preliminary Examination for ARS/ SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6)-2025
(Please check the examination centres in **Annexure–II** of this notification).

m) Centre opted for Combined Mains Examination for ARS/ SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6)-2025
(Please check the examination centres in **Annexure–III** of this notification).

n) Scanned copy of recent passport size photograph taken against white background only, of a maximum size of 200 KB in .jpg format only with the face covering at least 2/3rd of the total space and taken without spectacles.

o) Scanned copy of signatures taken in Black/Blue ink on a white paper only of maximum size of 100 KB in .jpg format only.

p) Scanned copy of Left Thumb Impression in Blue ink on a white paper only, of a maximum size of 100 KB in .jpg format only. (In case of any eventuality of left thumb being unavailable, right hand thumb impression may be used).

q) Debit Card/Credit Card/Net Banking/ UPI details for online payment of fee.

r) Valid and active e-mail id.

s) The candidate should have details of one Photo ID viz. Aadhaar Card/ Voter Card/ PAN Card/ Passport/ Driving License/ Any other photo ID card issued by the State/ Central Government. The details of this photo ID will have to be provided by the candidate while filling up the online application form. The candidates will have to upload a scanned copy of the Photo ID whose details have been provided in the online application by him/her. This photo ID will be used for all future references and the candidate is advised to carry this ID while appearing for the examination at the opted/ allotted centre.

vii. The candidates are required to enter their valid and active e-mail id in the Application Form since all communication/information/update(s) for this Examination would be sent to this e-mail id only. In case, they do not have ane-mail id, they may obtain one from any of the e-mail service providers of the candidate's choice. Please note that entry of the e-mail id in the prescribed field in the Application Form is mandatory/ compulsory.

viii. For payment of Application Fee, please follow the following steps:

1.	Open the website https://Bharatkosh.gov.in/
2.	Click on **'Non-Registered Users'**
3.	Select **'Individual'** in depositor's category
4.	When searching in the purpose category, select Ministry as **"001-Agriculture"**
5.	To pay Fee for Combined NET, ARS, SMS(T-6) and STO (T-6) Examination - 2025, select the following against the PURPOSE option : 'Examination/Certificate fee for ARS/NET/SMS/STO/FAO/AO'
6.	Confirm 'PAO' is **000001 – PAO (Sectt)-I**
7.	Confirm 'DDO' is **216968 –Add. ASRB, Chayan Bhavan**
8.	Fill amount and details about payment in remarks as per the following depending upon the combination selected in application form : (i) Fee for NET – 2025 (ii) Fee for ARS – 2025 (iii) Fee for SMS – 2025 (iv) Fee for STO – 2025 (v) Fee for NET – 2025 & ARS – 2025 (vi) Fee for NET – 2025 & SMS – 2025 (vii) Fee for NET – 2025 & STO – 2025 (viii) Fee for ARS-2025 & SMS – 2025

	(ix) Fee for ARS -2025 & STO – 2025 (x) Fee for SMS – 2025 & STO – 2025 (xi) Fee for NET, ARS & SMS – 2025 (xii) Fee for NET, ARS & STO – 2025 (xiii) Fee for NET, SMS & STO – 2025 (xiv) Fee for ARS, SMS & STO – 2025 (xv) Fee for NET, ARS, SMS & STO – 2025
9.	Enter Captcha and press **Add**
10.	Go to next page and fill depositor's details
11.	Make online payment through Debit/Credit Card/Net Banking/UPI
12.	Print receipt for payment
13.	Upload receipt in the online application form, alongwith other requisite information

ix. The candidate should keep the scanned copy of his/her recent passport size photograph taken against a white background of a maximum size of 200 KB in .jpg format only (with the face covering at least 2/3rd of the total space for easy identification) and scanned copy of his/her Signature (taken in blue/black ink only on a white paper for prominence) of a maximum size of 100 KB in .jpg format only for uploading during the process of Application Form Submission. The candidates are strongly advised to ensure that the same is duly and clearly uploaded in the application form. They should use only clear scanned copies (and not blurred or hazy) since the application form may not be considered if these are not clear. The photograph and signature would be used to be put on the Admission Certificate and entry to the examination centre is subject to verification of the photograph & signature.

The scanned photograph and signature must be uploaded in .jpg format only. These would be required to be uploaded using the links that will be guided to in the course of applying. They may browse and select the location where the scanned photograph/ signature file has been saved, select it and click the upload button. Once uploaded, a message informing about the successful uploading of the Photograph/signature, as thecase may be, will be displayed. In case, they want to use another photograph/signature (i.e., use any otherphotograph / signature), then select the edit button on the link and repeat the same process as before. Online Application Form will not be submitted unless the candidate has successfully uploaded photograph, signature and has paid the requisite applicable fee.

The candidate should retain a copy of the same photograph for use in the subsequent stages of the examination.

x. Candidates are informed that there are provisions for editing at many stages. Once the complete process of filling up the information in the Application Form, the Photograph and Signature is completed, the candidate can view the entire Application Form together with the photograph and signature and can still edit at this point to make/ incorporate any change/ editing in any field of the Application Form. However, once the payment detail has been uploaded, there is no possibility of making any modification/editing whatsoever in the application form.

xi. Once the payment detail is entered and submitted, a message informing the successful submission of Application Form will be displayed on the screen. In case, this does not appear, the process needs to be repeated, since it signifies/implies that the Application Form has not been successfully uploaded/ submitted.

xii. Candidates are strongly advised to keep a print or soft copy of the completed Application

Form for any future reference.

xiii. Mere successful submission of the Application Form and/or issuance of Admission Certificate do not automatically ensure admission to the Examination. If on verification at any later stage, it is found that a candidate does not fulfill any of the eligibility condition(s) or has given wrong/ incorrect/ misleading/ false information, either intentionally or otherwise error of omission or commission, his/her candidature will be cancelled/ rejected and fee paid will be forfeited and any action as deemed fit by the Board shall be taken in this regard.

xiv. The online application form is spread over number of parts. Candidates will receive an e-mail/SMS on successful registration in Part-I, i.e., basic data regarding their Name, Father's Name, E-mail Id, Date of Birth etc. after which all the stages of the application form are to be completed and final submission done. Mere registration by completing Part-I of the application form does not signify successful completion of the submission process.

xv. Fees once submitted in Bharatkosh shall not be refunded at any cost and will not be kept in reserve for any other examination purpose.

xvi. For any clarification/assistance, Candidate may call Ph. No. 011-25846166/25848172 (Extn. 314) during 0930 hrs to 1700 hrs (Monday to Friday, except Gazetted Holiday(s)) or e-mail to netarssmssto2025@asrb.org.in.

ANNEXURE – II

CENTRES FOR COMBINED COMPUTER BASED TEST (CBT) FOR NET-2025 & PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION FOR ARS/ SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6)-2025

Centre Code	Centre	State/ UT	Centre Code	Centre	State/ UT
1.	Anand/ Vadodara	Gujarat	23.	Jorhat	Assam
2.	Barapani/ Shillong	Meghalaya	24.	Karnal	Haryana
3.	Bareilly	Uttar Pradesh	25.	Kochi	Kerala
4.	Barrackpore/ Kolkata	West Bengal	26.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
5.	Bengaluru	Karnataka	27.	Ludhiana	Punjab
6.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	28.	Mangaluru	Karnataka
7.	Bhubaneswar	Odisha	29.	Mumbai	Maharashtra
8.	Chandigarh/ Mohali	Chandigarh	30.	Nagpur	Maharashtra
9.	Chennai	Tamil Nadu	31.	Patna	Bihar
10.	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	32.	Port Blair	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
11.	Dehradun	Uttarakhand	33.	Puducherry	Puducherry
12.	Delhi	Delhi	34.	Pune	Maharashtra
13.	Dharwad	Karnataka	35.	Raipur	Chhattisgarh
14.	Gangtok	Sikkim	36.	Rajkot	Gujarat
15.	Guwahati	Assam	37.	Ranchi	Jharkhand
16.	Hyderabad	Telangana	38.	Shimla	Himachal Pradesh
17.	Imphal	Manipur	39.	Srinagar	Jammu & Kashmir
18.	Indore	Madhya Pradesh	40.	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala
19.	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	41.	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh
20.	Jaipur	Rajasthan	42.	Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh
21.	Jammu	Jammu & Kashmir	43.	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
22.	Jodhpur	Rajasthan	44.	Udaipur	Rajasthan

The Board may engage any number of venues for the examination at the above mentioned centres.

ANNEXURE – III

CENTRES FOR COMBINED MAINS (DESCRIPTIVE) EXAMINATION FOR ARS/ SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6)-2025

Centre Code	Centre	State/ UT
01	Anand/ Vadodara	Gujarat
02	Bengaluru	Karnataka
03	Barapani/ Shillong	Meghalaya
04	Bareilly	Uttar Pradesh
05	Barrackpore/ Kolkata	West Bengal
06	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
07	Bhubaneswar	Odisha
08	Chandigarh/ Mohali	Chandigarh
09	Chennai	Tamil Nadu
10	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
11	Dehradun	Uttarakhand
12	Delhi	Delhi
13	Guwahati	Assam
14	Hyderabad	Telangana
15	Indore	Madhya Pradesh
16	Jaipur	Rajasthan
17	Jammu	Jammu & Kashmir
18	Jodhpur	Rajasthan
19	Karnal	Haryana
20	Kochi	Kerala
21	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
22	Ludhiana	Punjab
23	Mumbai	Maharashtra
24	Nagpur	Maharashtra
25	Patna	Bihar
26	Port Blair	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
27	Raipur	Chhattisgarh
28	Rajkot	Gujarat
29	Shimla	Himachal Pradesh
30	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh
31	Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh

The Board may engage any number of venues for the examination at the above mentioned centres.

SECTION – (A)
NATIONAL ELIGIBILITY TEST (NET)

National Eligibility Test (NET) is a qualifying examination for determining eligibility for the position of Lecturer/Assistant Professor in the State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and other Agricultural Universities (AUs). NET-2025 Examination shall be conducted in Computer Based Test (CBT) mode only. Candidates clearing the National Eligibility Test will be eligible to apply for the post of Lecturers or Assistant Professors in the SAUs/AUs.

NET certificates will be issued by the ASRB to the qualified candidates in digital format through DigiLocker app to enable them to apply against vacancies to be notified or advertised by the State Agricultural Universities/other Agricultural Universities. SAUs/AUs will satisfy themselves with regard to fulfillment of all prescribed eligibility condition/ criterionfor requisite posts of Lecturers/Assistant Professors including authenticity of the NET Certificate in the possession of the candidates.

2. RULES OF EXAMINATION

The Rules of NET Examination including Prescribed Educational Qualifications, Age-Limits and Examination Fee, etc. are given in **Annexure-IV**. Candidate must read the Rules of examination carefully before filling up the Online Application form.

3. PLAN OF EXAMINATION

The detailed Plan of Examination is given in **Annexure –V.**

4. SYLLABUS:

Syllabus for NET is available on the ASRB's website.

RULES OF EXAMINATION FOR NET - 2025

The rules for the National Eligibility Test Examination to be held by the Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board are published for general information.

1. **NATIONALITY**:

A candidate must be either:-

(i) a citizen of India, or
(ii) a citizen of Nepal, or
(iii) a citizen of Bhutan, or
(iv) a Tibetan refugee who came over to India before the 1st January, 1962, with the intention of permanently settling in India, or
(v) a person of Indian origin who has migrated from Pakistan, Burma, Sri Lanka and East African countries of Kenya, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Zaire, Ethiopia and Vietnam with the intention of permanently settling in India.

Provided that a candidate belonging to categories (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) above shall be a person in whose favour a certificate of eligibility has been issued by the Government of India.

2. **AGE LIMITS:**

A candidate must have attained the age of 21 years as on **01.01.2025.** There is no upper age limit for the National Eligibility Test.

3. **EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:**

A candidate must possess a Master's degree or equivalent in the concerned Discipline as prescribed in **Annexure-VI** completed **on or before 30.09.2025** from any Indian University incorporated by an Act of Central or State Legislature in India or other educational institution established by an Act of Parliament or declared to be deemed University under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 or he/she must have qualification from a foreign University recognized as equivalent eligibility qualification by the Government of India (GoI).

4. **EXAMINATION FEE:**

The candidates seeking admission to examination must pay to the Board a fee as follows:

Sl. No.	Category of candidate	₹
1	Unreserved (UR)	1000/-
2	Economically Weaker Section (EWS)/ Other Backward Class (OBC)	500/-
3	Scheduled Caste (SC)/ Scheduled Tribe (ST)/ PwBD / Women/ Transgender	250/-

Transaction charges for Debit Card/Credit Card/Net Banking/ UPI, as the case may be, have to be borne by the candidate.

NOTE I: APPLICATIONS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY THE PRESCRIBED FEE SHALL BE SUMMARILY REJECTED.

NOTE II: Fee once paid shall not be refunded under any circumstances nor can the fee be held in reserve for any other examination or selection.

NOTE III: OBC candidates whose caste is not listed in Central List (as available on National Commission for Backward Classes website www.ncbc.nic.in) and who are not covered under the provisions as applicable to OBC-Non-Creamy Layer (NCL) candidates shall be treated as General Category candidates for all purposes. Accordingly, OBC Candidates not belonging to OBC Non-Creamy Layer shall indicate their category as 'General'.

5. **RESERVED/RELAXED CATEGORY CANDIDATES**

Candidates who claim to belong to the Scheduled Castes (SC) or Scheduled Tribes (ST) must possess the requisite certificate in the prescribed format as per **Appendix-I**. Otherwise their claim for SC/ST category will not be considered.

Candidates who claim to belong to Other Backward Classes (OBC)-Non Creamy Layer must possess the requisite certificate in the prescribed format as per **Appendix-II** from the competent authority as mentioned therein. Otherwise, their claim for OBC status will not be considered. The OBC Certificate in a format other than the prescribed one will not be accepted/ considered. The OBC Certificate should have been issued for posts under Govt. of India and not for posts under the respective state of the candidate only.

OBC candidates whose caste is not listed in Central List (as available on National Commission for Backward Classes website www.ncbc.nic.in) and who are not covered under the provisions as applicable to OBC-Non Creamy Layer (NCL) candidates, shall be treated as General Category candidates for all purposes.

Candidates who claim to be Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) must possess medical certificate as per disability in the prescribed applicable format i.e. Form V/VI/VII as per **Appendix-III** issued by the Competent Medical Authorities for the purpose of employment.

Candidates who claim to belong to the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) will be required to submit the requisite certificate in the prescribed format as per **Appendix-IV,** otherwise their claim for EWS category will not be considered.

Candidates should be in possession of all the requisite certificates in the prescribed format in support of their claim and these certificates must be valid at the time of submission of the online application form for the examination.

6. ASRB shall issue the NET Certificates in digital format through DigiLocker app based on information such as the qualifications, category, etc. given by the candidates in their online application form. Relaxation in qualifying standards, fee, etc. is also given on the basis of such information. It is the responsibility of the recruiting organization to verify the original certificates including prescribed qualification in the relevant discipline of NET, caste / Physically Challenged Certificate (if applicable), Character & Antecedents, etc. of the candidate at the time of consideration of his/her candidature for appointment. The NET Certificate is liable to be withdrawn / cancelled if it comes to the notice of the Board at any stage that the candidate had fraudulently obtained the Certificate by furnishing wrong particulars in his/her online application.

7. The date of declaration of result of NET Examination will be the date of qualifying NET Examination.

8. The decision of the Board with respect to the eligibility or otherwise of a candidate for admission to the examination shall be final.

9. No candidate will be admitted to the examination unless he/ she holds a certificate of admission from the Board.

10. Any attempt on the part of a candidate to obtain support for his/ her candidature by any means may disqualify him/ herfrom admission to the examination.

ANNEXURE – V

PLAN OF EXAMINATION FOR NET - 2025

There will be one paper of 150 marks consisting of 150 objective type multiple choice questions to be solved in 2 (Two) hours. Each question carries one mark. These 150 questions shall be derived from the respective discipline in which the candidate has opted to appear.

Minimum marks required for qualifying NET-2025

Category of candidate	Minimum qualifying marks
Un-reserved(UR)	75.0 (50%)
EWS / OBC	67.5 (45%)
SC / ST/ PwBD	60.0 (40%)

1/3mark will be deducted for each wrong answer in the NET-2025. There will be no rounding off of fractions of marks.

The Board reserves the right to fix/ revise the qualifying marks in any or all Disciplines at its discretion.

The Examination will be conducted in Computer Based Test (CBT) mode only at the designated Centres. The questions in the Examination will be available in bilingual form i.e. Hindi and English medium. The answers to the questions are to be registered on the computer itself during the Examination.

The standard of paper will be that of a Master's degree of an Indian University in the relevant Discipline.

ANNEXURE – VI

DISCIPLINES AND THEIR ELIGIBILITY QUALIFICATIONS FOR NET, ARS, SMS (T-6) AND STO (T-6)

Discipline Code	Discipline	Eligibility Qualifications
01	Agricultural Biotechnology	Master's degree in Molecular Biology and Bio-Technology/ Biotechnology/ Agricultural Biotechnology/Plant Biotechnology / Genetic Engineering/ Botany/ Life Sciences /Plant Physiology/ Agricultural Biochemistry/ Bioinformatics/ Genetics & Plant Breeding/ Plant Breeding and Genetics
02	Agricultural Entomology	Master's degree in Agricultural Entomology/Entomology/Zoology/ Sericulture/Apiculture/Plant Protection
03	Agricultural Microbiology	Master's degree in Agricultural Microbiology /Microbiology/ Soil Science/Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry/ Environmental Science
04	Economic Botany & Plant Genetic Resources	Master's degree in Botany/Economic Botany/Plant Genetic Resources/ Genetics and Plant Breeding/Plant Breeding & Genetics/Seed Science & Technology/ Agricultural Botany/ Horticulture/ Agroforestry
05	Genetics & Plant Breeding	Master's degree in Agricultural Botany/ Plant Breeding & Genetics/Genetics& P lant Breeding/ Plant Genetic Resources/ Seed Science &Technology/Botany/ Plant Molecular Biology/Plant Biotechnology/Plant Sciences
06	Nematology	Master's degree in Agricultural Nematology/ Agricultural Entomology/ Entomology/Plant Pathology/Zoology/Plant Protection
07	Plant Biochemistry	Master's degree in Agricultural Biochemistry/ Biochemistry /Plant Biochemistry/Chemistry/Plant Physiology/ Molecular Biology and Biotechnology/ Plant Biotechnology
08	Plant Pathology	Master's degree in Botany/Agricultural Botany/ Life Sciences/ Plant Pathology/Plant Protection/ Mycology
09	Plant Physiology	Master's degree in Plant Physiology/ Crop Physiology/ Agricultural Botany/ Botany/ Biochemistry/ Molecular Biology & Biotechnology/ Seed Science and Technology
10	Seed Science & Technology	Master's degree in Seed Science & Technology/Genetics and Plant Breeding / Plant Breeding & Genetics/ Plant Genetic Resources / Genetics/ Plant Breeding/ Economic Botany/ Agricultural Botany/Botany/Plant Sciences/Plant Physiology
11	Floriculture & Landscaping	Master's degree in Floriculture/ Floriculture & Landscaping/ Floriculture and Landscape Architecture/ Horticulture/ Post Harvest Technology (Horticulture)/ Post Harvest Management (Horticulture)
12	Fruit Science	Master's degree in Fruit Science/Pomology/Horticulture/ Post Harvest Technology (Horticulture)/ Post Harvest Management (Horticulture)
13	Spices, Plantation & Medicinal & Aromatic Plants	Master's degree in Horticulture/Plantation, Spices, Medicinal and Aromatic Crops/ Spices,PlantationMedicinal & Aromatic crops/ PlantationCrops/ MedicinalandAromatic Plants/ Post Harvest Technology (Horticulture)/ Post Harvest Management (Horticulture)

14	Vegetable Science	Master's degree in Olericulture/ Vegetable Sciences/Vegetable Crops/ Horticulture/Post Harvest Technology (Horticulture)/ Post Harvest Management (Horticulture)
15	Animal Biochemistry	Master's degree in Veterinary Biochemistry/Animal Biochemistry
16	Animal Biotechnology	Master's degree in Veterinary Biotechnology/ Animal Biotechnology/ Animal Genetics & Breeding/Animal Breeding & Genetics
17	Animal Genetics & Breeding	Master's degree in Animal Genetics & Breeding / Animal Breeding & Genetics
18	Animal Nutrition	Master's degree in Animal Nutrition
19	Animal Physiology	Master's degree in Veterinary Physiology /Animal Physiology
20	Animal Reproduction &Gynecology	Master's degree in Animal Reproduction & Gynecology/ Veterinary Gynecology and Obstetrics/ Animal Reproduction, Gynecology and Obstetrics
21	Dairy Chemistry	Master's degree in Dairy Chemistry/Food Safety and Quality Assurance
22	Dairy Microbiology	Master's degree in Dairy Microbiology/ Food Safety & Quality Assurance/ Microbiology
23	Dairy Technology	Master's degree in Dairy Technology/ Dairy Engineering/Food Science and Technology/ Food Technology
24	Livestock Product Technology	Master's degree in Livestock Product Technology / Meat Science
25	Livestock Production Management	Master's degree in Livestock Production Management/ Livestock Production & Management/Animal Husbandry/Animal Husbandry & Dairy Science
26	Poultry Science	Master's degree in Poultry Science
27	Veterinary Medicine	Master's degree in Veterinary Medicine/ Veterinary Clinical Medicine/Veterinary Preventive Medicine & Epidemiology/Veterinary Preventive Medicine, Epidemiology & Jurisprudence
28	Veterinary Microbiology	Master's degree in Veterinary Microbiology/ Veterinary Bacteriology/ Veterinary Virology/ Veterinary Immunology
29	Veterinary Parasitology	Master's degree in Veterinary Parasitology
30	Veterinary Pathology	Master's degree in Veterinary Pathology
31	Veterinary Pharmacology	Master's degree in Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology/ Veterinary Pharmacology / Pharmacology
32	Veterinary Public Health	Master's degree in Veterinary Public Health/ Veterinary Public Health & Epidemiology/Veterinary Epidemiology
33	Veterinary Surgery	Master's degree in Veterinary Surgery/ Veterinary Surgery & Radiology
34	Aquaculture	Master's degree in Aquaculture
35	Fisheries	Master's degree in Fisheries Resource Management/Aquatic

	Resource Management	Environmental Management/Aquatic Environment Management/ Fisheries Engineering & Technology (Fisheries Technology & Engineering)
36	Fish Processing Technology	Master's degree in Fish Processing Technology/Post Harvest Technology/Fish Quality Assurance and Management/Post Harvest Engineering & Technology / Processing & Food Engineering
37	Fish Nutrition	Master's degree in Fish Nutrition/Fish Nutrition and Fish Physiology/ Fish Nutrition and Biochemistry/Fish Physiology and Biochemistry/ Fish Nutrition and Feed Technology
38	Fish Health	Master's degree in Fish Pathology & Microbiology/ Aquatic Animal Health Management/ Fish Health Management
39	Fish Genetics & Breeding	Master's degree in Fish Biotechnology/ Fish Genetics & Breeding/ Fish Genetics/ Fish Genetics and Biotechnology
40	Agricultural Chemicals	Master's degree in Agricultural Chemicals/ Chemistry
41	Agricultural Meteorology	Master's degree in Agricultural Meteorology/ Water Science and Technology /Agricultural Physics / Environmental Sciences/ Meteorology/ Atmospheric Sciences/ Climate Sciences
42	Agroforestry	Master's degree in Agroforestry/Forestry/ Agronomy /Horticulture/ Botany/ Silviculture & Agroforestry/ Forest Biology & Tree Improvement/ Forest Products & Utilization/Forest Resource Management/Fruit Science/Plantation Spice, Medicinal & Aromatic crops/ EconomicBotany
43	Agronomy	Master's degree in Agronomy/Soil Water Management/ Conservation Agriculture/ Farming Systems Management/ Forage Production/ Weed Science / Organic farming/Natural Farming/ Water Science and Technology/ Sustainable Agriculture
44	Environmental Science	Master's degree in Environmental Science/Agro-forestry/ Silviculture & Agroforestry/ Agricultural Meteorology/Soil Science/ Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry/ Agricultural Chemistry and Soil Science
45	Soil Sciences	Master's degree in Soil Sciences/ Microbiology/ Agricultural Chemistry/ Agricultural Physics/Soil Physics/Soil & Water Conservation / Soil Fertility/Soil Microbiology / Soil Chemistry / Water Science & Technology /Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry/ Agricultural Chemistry and Soil Science/ Soil Conservation and Water Management/Environmental Science
46	Agricultural Business Management	Master's degree in Agricultural Business Management /Agricultural Marketing/ Business Management / Fisheries Business Management/ Rural Management /Agricultural Economics
47	Agricultural Economics	Master's degree in Agricultural Economics/Dairy Economics/ Veterinary Economics/ Fisheries Economics/Economics
48	Agricultural Extension	Master's degree in Agricultural Extension/ Veterinary Extension/ Dairy Extension/ Fisheries Extension/ Home Science Extension/ Agriculture Communication / Agricultural Extension Education / Agricultural Extension and Communication/ Extension Education/ Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Extension/ Community Science extension with specialization in agriculture
49	Agricultural	Master's degree in Agricultural Statistics/Statistics / Applied Statistics/

	Statistics	Biostatistics/ Mathematical Statistics
50	Home Science	Master's degree in Home Science/Community Science/Textile and Clothing/Child Development/ Foods and Nutrition/ Human Development & Family Studies / Extension & Communication Management / Textile Science & Design / Family Resource Management & Consumer Science / Food Science & Nutrition/ Home Science Extension/ Community Science extension with specialization in agriculture
51	Farm Machinery & Power	Master's degree in Agricultural Engineering / Farm Machinery & Power Engineering / MechanicalEngineering/Renewable Energy Note: The candidate possessing any of the aforesaid PG/Master's Degree shall be considered eligible who has done B.Tech. in Agricultural Engineering.
52	Computer Applications & IT	Master's degree in Computer Application/ Computer Application (Agriculture)/ Information Technology/ Information Communication Technology/ InformationTechnology&Communication / Computer Science/ Computer Application & IT/ Computer Application & IT (Agriculture)/Information Systems/ Data Science/Artificial Intelligence/ Cybersecurity/ Applied Computer Science/ Software Engineering/ Computer Engineering/ Computer Science and Engineering
53	Land & Water Management Engineering	Master's degree in Agricultural Engineering (Soil & Water Conservation Engineering/ Soil & Water Conservation Engineering/ Soil & Water Engineering/ Irrigation & Drainage Engineering/ Land & Water Management Engineering/ Water Resources Engineering/ Irrigation & Water Management/ Hydrology/ Water Science and Technology/Water Engineering and Management Note: The candidate possessing any of the aforesaid PG/Master's Degree shall be considered eligible who has done B.Tech. in Agricultural Engineering.
54	Bioinformatics	Master'sdegreeBioinformatics/Agriculture Biotechnology/ Agricultural Statistics /Molecular Biology and Biotechnology/ Biotechnology.
55	Food Technology	Master's degree in Food Sciences/ Food Technology/ Food Science and Technology/ Post Harvest Technology/Dairy Technology/ Livestock Products Technology/ Safety & Quality (food)/ Agricultural Processing and Food Engineering/ Processing and Food Engineering/ Food Process Engineering/ Food Processing Technology/ Dairy Engineering/ Post-Harvest Engineering & Technology/ Food Science and Nutrition/ Food and Nutrition/Post Harvest Technology (Horticulture)/Post Harvest Management (Horticulture)
56	Agricultural Structure and Process Engineering	Master's degree in Agricultural Engineering /Agricultural Structures and Process Engg. / Agricultural Structures and Environment Management/ Agricultural Process Engineering/ Food Engineering / Food Technology/ Food Process Engineering/ Processing & Food Engineering/ Processing Technology/ Post Harvest Engineering/ Post Harvest Engineering & Technology/ Dairy Engineering/ Process Engineering Note: The candidate possessing any of the aforesaid PG/Master's Degree shall be considered eligible who has done B.Tech. in Agricultural Engineering.

57	Veterinary Anatomy	Master's degree in Veterinary Anatomy / Veterinary Anatomy & Histology/ Veterinary Anatomy, Histology and Embryology
58	Agricultural Physics	Master's degree in Physics / Agricultural Physics/Bio-physics/ Remote Sensing & GIS/ Agricultural Meteorology/ Environmental Science/ Geo-informatics/Soil Science/Soil Physics/ Soil & Water Conservation/ Soil & Water Conservation Engineering
59	Electronics & Instrumentation	Master's degree in Electronics Engineering/ Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering/Electrical & Electronics Engineering/ Electronics & Instrumentation Engineering/Instrumentation Engineering
60	Textile Manufacture & Technology	Master's degree in Textile Technology/Textile Engineering/ Textile Chemistry/ Technical Textiles/Textile Chemical Processing/Textile and Clothing/ Fibre Science and Technology/ Fashion Technology/ Community Science /Home science/ Apparel and Textile Science/ Clothing and Textile

SECTION (B)
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE (ARS)

The ARS Examination is a direct recruitment examination for the post of entry-level Scientist in Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in Research Pay Level-10 (₹ 57,700 – 1,82,400) of 7th CPC.

All those candidates desirous of appearing for ARS Examination for recruitment to the post of ARS Scientists are required to take:

(i) Preliminary Examination (CBT) for ARS-2025*(Qualifying)*
(ii) Mains (Descriptive) Examination for ARS-2025
(iii) Personal Interview

The details are given in Plan of Examination **(Annexure-VIII)**.

2. VACANCIES FOR ARS

The numbers of vacancies in ARS-2025 under various disciplines are given in **Annexure-IX.** The number of vacancies is tentative.

3. RULES OF EXAMINATION

The Rules of ARS Examination including Prescribed Educational Qualifications, Age-Limits and Examination Fee, etc. are given in **Annexure –VII**. Candidate must read the Rules of examination carefully before filling up the Online Application form.

4. PLAN OF EXAMINATION

The detailed Plan of Examination is given in **Annexure-VIII.**

5. SYLLABUS:

Syllabus is available on the ASRB's website.

RULES OF ARSEXAMINATION-2025

The rules for the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Examination-2025 to be held by the Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board are published for general information.

1. **NATIONALITY**:

A candidate must be either: -

(i) a citizen of India, or
(ii) a citizen of Nepal, or
(iii) a citizen of Bhutan, or
(iv) a Tibetan refugee who came over to India before the 1st January, 1962, with the intention of permanently settling in India, or
(v) a person of Indian origin who has migrated from Pakistan, Burma, Sri Lanka and East African countries of Kenya, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Zaire, Ethiopia and Vietnam with the intention of permanently settling in India.

Provided that a candidate belonging to categories (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) above shall be a person in whose favour a certificate of eligibility has been issued by the Government of India.

2. **AGE LIMITS: -**

A candidate seeking admission to the **ARS Examination-2025** must have attained the age of **21 years** but not have attained the **age of 32 years as on 01.08.2025**.

The upper age limit prescribed above will also be relaxable:-

(i) Upto a maximum of 5 years if a candidate belongs to SC or ST.
(ii) Upto a maximum of 3 years in the case of candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes, who are eligible to avail of reservation applicable to such candidates, i.e. Non-creamy layer.
(iii) For PwBD candidates, the upper age limit will be relaxable upto a maximum of 10 years. Candidates belonging to SC, ST and OBC who are also covered under the PwBD category will be eligible for grant of cumulative age relaxation under both of their respective categories.
(iv) The upper age-limit for the candidates holding Ph.D. degree will be relaxable by a further period of 3 years. Thus, the maximum limit for SC/ST candidates in such cases will be 40 years, for OBC candidates 38 years and for PwBD candidate 45 years. In such cases the candidates should have obtained Ph.D. degree on or before **30.09.2025**, which is the qualifying date for holding Master's Degree.
(v) In-service candidates of ICAR less than 45 years in age as on **01.08.2025** will also be eligible to appear subject to possession of prescribed qualifications.
(vi) In-service candidates of the Agricultural Universities less than 35 years of age as on **01.08.2025** will be eligible to appear for ARS subject to possession of prescribed qualifications.
(vii) For Ex-Servicemen/ Disabled Defence Services Personnel as per the existing instructions of the Government of India on the subject.

Save as provided above, the age limits prescribed can in no case be relaxed.

3. **EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:**

A candidate must possess a Master's degree or equivalent in the concerned Discipline as prescribed in Annexure-VI completed **on or before 30.09.2025** from any Indian University incorporated by an Act of Central or State Legislature in India or other educational institution established by an Act of Parliament or declared to be deemed University under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 or he/she must have qualification from a foreign University recognized as equivalent eligibility qualification by the Government of India (GoI).

Candidates who have appeared at an examination, the passing of which would render them eligible to appear at the ARS Examination-2025 but have not been informed of the results, may apply for admission to the ARS Examination-2025. Candidates who intend to appear at such a qualifying examination may also apply and such candidates must hold the Master's Degree or equivalent on or before 30.09.2025.

The candidates having Master's degree from a foreign University must attach a certificate of equivalence and recognition of that degree issued by the University Grants Commission/ Government of India / any other concerned Department or Agency of Government of India.

4. **FEE:-**

The candidates seeking admission to examination must pay to the Board a fee as follows:

S. No.	Category of candidate	For ARS (₹)
1	Unreserved (UR)	1,000/-
2	Economically Weaker Section (EWS)/ Other Backward Class (OBC)	800/-
3	Scheduled Caste (SC)/ Scheduled Tribe (ST)/ Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) / Women/ Transgender	NIL

Transaction charges for Debit Card/Credit Card/ Net Banking/ UPI, as the case may be, have to be borne by the candidate.

NOTE I: APPLICATIONS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY THE PRESCRIBED FEE SHALL BE SUMMARILY REJECTED.

NOTE II: Fee once paid shall not be refunded under any circumstances nor can the fee be held in reserve for any other examination or selection.

NOTE III: OBC candidates whose caste is not listed in Central List (as available on National Commission for Backward Classes website www.ncbc.nic.in) and who are not covered under the provisions as applicable to OBC-Non-Creamy Layer (NCL) candidates shall be treated as General Category candidates for all purposes. Accordingly, OBC Candidates not belonging to OBC Non-Creamy Layer shall indicate their category as 'General'.

5. **RESERVED/RELAXED CATEGORY CANDIDATES**

Candidates who claim to belong to the Scheduled Castes (SC) or Scheduled Tribes (ST) will be required to submit the requisite certificate in the prescribed format as per **Appendix – I**. Otherwise, their claim for SC/ST category will not be considered.

Candidates who claim to belong to Other Backward Classes (OBC) will be required to submit requisite certificate in the prescribed format as per **Appendix-II** from the competent authority as mentioned therein. Otherwise, their claim for OBC status will not be considered. The OBC Certificate in a format other than the prescribed one will not be accepted/considered. The OBC Certificate should have been issued for posts under Govt. of India and not for posts under the respective state of the candidate only.

OBC candidates whose caste is not listed in Central List (as available on National Commission for Backward Classes website www.ncbc.nic.in) and who are not covered under the provisions as applicable to OBC-Non Creamy Layer (NCL) candidates shall be treated as General Category candidates for all purposes.

Candidates who claim to be PwBD will be required to submit medical certificates as per disability in the new prescribed applicable format i.e. Form V/VI/VII as per **Appendix-III** issued by the Competent Medical Authorities for the purpose of employment.

Candidates who claim to belong to the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) will be required to submit the requisite certificate in the prescribed format as per **Appendix-IV**. Otherwise, their claim for EWS category will not be considered.

Candidates should be in possession of all the requisite certificates in the prescribed format in support of their claim as stipulated in the Rules for such benefits, and these certificates must be valid at the time of submission of the online application form for the examination.

6. The decision of the Board with respect to the eligibility or otherwise of a candidate for admission to the examination shall be final.

7. No candidate will be admitted to the examination unless he/ she hold a certificate of admission issued by the Board.

8. Any attempt on the part of a candidate to obtain support for his candidature by any means may disqualify him from admission to the examination.

9. A candidate must be in good mental and bodily health and free from any physical defects likely to interfere with the discharge of his duties as an officer of the service. A candidate, who after such physical examination as the Indian Council of Agricultural Research may prescribe, is found not to satisfy these requirements will not be appointed. Candidates selected by the Board may be required to undergo physical examination. Candidates will be required to pay the fee for the Medical Examination as prescribed by the Government of India for such category of the posts.

10. ***No person:-***
    - **(a)** Who has entered into or contracted a marriage with a person having a spouse living or
    - **(b)** Who, having a spouse living has entered into or contracted a marriage with any person shall be eligible for appointment to the service.

Provided that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, may, if satisfied that such a marriage is permissible under the personal law applicable to such person and the other party to the marriage and there are other grounds for so doing, exempt any person from the operation of this rule.

PLAN OF EXAMINATION FOR ARS-2025

1. The Overall distribution of marks for ARS-2025 Examination will be as under:

S.No.	Description	Max. Marks	Duration
1	Preliminary Examination (CBT) for ARS-2025*(Qualifying)*	150	2 hours
2	Mains (Descriptive) Examination for ARS-2025	300	3 hours
3	Personal Interview	45	-

2. (a) Preliminary Examination (CBT) for ARS-2025:

This Preliminary Examinationwill be conducted in CBT mode at the designated Centres. This is a qualifying examination and marks scored will not be counted for final selection. It will have only one paper of 150 marks with all multiple choice objective questions to be attempted in 2 (two) hours, from the respective discipline (Annexure-VI) opted by the candidate. The questions of the Examination will be available in bilingual form i.e. Hindi and English medium. The answers are to be marked on the computer itself during the Examination.

1/3 marks will be deducted for each wrong answer in Preliminary Examination (CBT) for ARS-2025 (Objective Type). There will be no rounding off of fractions of marks.

The candidates who obtain following minimum qualifying marks in the Preliminary Examination will be allowed to appear in the Mains (Descriptive) Examination for ARS-2025in the ratio of 1:15 (category-wise) for each post. However, the Board reserves the right to fix/alter the qualifying marks and ratio in any or all Disciplines at its discretion.

Minimum marks required for qualifying Preliminary Examination (CBT) for ARS-2025:

Category of candidate	Minimum qualifying marks
Un-reserved (UR)	67.5 (45%)
EWS/ OBC	60.0 (40%)
SC / ST/ PwBD	52.5 (35%)

(b) **Mains (Descriptive) Examination for ARS-2025:-**

This Mains Examination will comprise of only one paper of 300 marks (three hours duration) in the respective disciplines with the following pattern:

(i) 25 Questions of 5 marks each (Answer in about 50 words each)
(ii) 10 Questions of 10 marks each (Answer in about 100 words each)
(iii) 05 Questions of 15 marks each (Answer in about 150 words each)

The candidates who obtain such minimum qualifying marks in the Mains Examination as may be fixed by the Board in its discretion, shall be called for Personal Interview in the ratio of 1:3 (category-wise) for each vacancy. However, the Board reserves the right to alter this ratio at its discretion.

Question paper for Mains Examination of ARS-2025 can be answered either in English

or Hindi. The Candidate has to indicate his/her medium of examination therefore in the Online Application Form itself. The answers/ scripts attempted in a medium other than the opted one will not be evaluated.

(c) **Personal Interview for ARS-2025:**

The candidates will be interviewed by a Board of competent and unbiased experts in the respective disciplines, who will have before them a record of his/her career. The object of the Personal Interview is to assess his/her suitability for the Service for which he/she has competed. The Personal Interviewis intended to supplement the written examination for testing the general and specialized knowledge and abilities of the candidate. The candidate will be expected to have taken an intelligent interest not only in his/her own state or country, but also in modern current of thought and in new discoveries, which should rouse the curiosity of well-educated youth.

The technique of the Personal Interviewis not that of strict cross-examination, but of a natural, though directed and purposive conversation intended to reveal the candidate's mental qualities and his/her grasp of problems. The Board will pay special attention to assessing the intellectual curiosity, critical powers of assimilation, balance of judgment and alertness of mind, the ability for social cohesion, integrity of character, initiative and capacity for leadership and scientific research.

NOTE:- Syllabus for the Examination is available on ASRB's website www.asrb.org.in

3. **Examination Procedure**: -

(i) Reserved category candidates who qualify after availing relaxed standard or age relaxation shall render themselves ineligible for UR posts. They will be eligible only for the vacancies which are reserved for respective category in a particular discipline.

(ii) After the Personal Interview,the candidates will be arranged by the Board in the order of merit in each category (discipline-wise) as disclosed by the aggregate marks finally awarded to each candidate. Candidates who obtain such minimum aggregate marks in the written papers and Personal Interview as may be fixed by the Board in its discretion shall be recommended for appointment to ARS in accordance with the number of vacancies intimated by the Council under each discipline. Based on the merit, the candidates belonging to reserved categories i.e. SC/ST/OBC/PwBD are also eligible to be considered against the unreserved vacancies, if no relaxation in age or qualifying marks, either in ARS-2025 (Preliminary) or in ARS-2025 (Mains) Examination or in both has been availed by such reserve category candidates. If any concession in age or relaxation in qualifying marks is availed, such candidates will be eligible for consideration only against vacancies reserved for them.

(iii) **Rules for Tie-Breaker**: Wherever two or more candidates have secured equal aggregate marks {marks in Mains (Descriptive) Examination for ARS-2025 + Personal Interview} the merit of the candidates shall be determined by applying the following Tie-Breaker Rules:

(a) Candidate securing more marks in the Mains (Descriptive) Examination for ARS-2025 will be ranked higher.

(b) In case where the marks mentioned at (a) above are equal, the candidate securing more marks in the Preliminary (CBT) Examination for ARS-2025 will be ranked higher.

(iv) There will be a reserve list/ panel to fill up the vacancies arising due to non-joining of candidate within the stipulated time allowed for joining the post or where a candidate joins but he/she resigns or dies within a period of one year from the date of his/her joining, if a fresh panel is not available by then.

(v) There is no provision of re-evaluation of the answer script and therefore, no request for re-evaluation of the answer script will be entertained. The Board will not enter into any correspondence in this regard.

(vi) Recommendation by the Board for appointment in the ARS will not be binding unless the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is satisfied after such enquiry as may be considered necessary that the candidate is suitable in all respects for appointment to the Service.

ANNEXURE- IX

Vacancy Position For ARS

S. No.	Name of Discipline (code)	Total Vacancies	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	UR	PwBD
1	Agricultural Entomology (02)	22	04	01	06	02	09	1$
2	Agricultural Microbiology (03)	08	01	00	03	01	03	0
3	Economic Botany & P.G.R. (04)	12	00	02	04	02	04	1@
4	Genetics & Plant Breeding (05)	24	04	00	08	03	09	1@
5	Nematology (06)	02	00	00	01	00	01	0
6	Plant Biochemistry (07)	06	01	01	01	00	03	0
7	Plant Pathology (08)	20	04	00	06	03	07	1$
8	Plant Physiology (09)	14	01	00	06	02	05	1@
9	Seed Science & Technology (10)	10	02	01	02	01	04	0
10	Floriculture & Landscaping (11)	04	00	01	01	00	02	0
11	Fruit Science (12)	20	03	00	07	03	07	1&
12	Vegetable Science (14)	12	02	01	03	02	04	1%
13	Animal Biochemistry (15)	08	01	01	02	01	03	0
14	Animal Biotechnology (16)	04	00	01	01	00	02	0
15	Animal Genetics & Breeding (17)	18	03	01	05	02	07	1$
16	Animal Nutrition (18)	20	02	02	06	02	08	1#
17	Animal Physiology (19)	06	01	01	01	01	02	0
18	Animal Reproduction & Gynecology (20)	02	00	01	00	00	01	0
19	Dairy Chemistry (21)	02	01	00	00	00	01	0
20	Dairy Microbiology (22)	01	00	00	00	00	01	0
21	Dairy Technology (23)	02	01	00	00	00	01	0
22	Livestock Products Technology (24)	02	00	00	01	00	01	0
23	Livestock Production Management (25)	12	02	01	02	01	06	1%
24	Poultry Science (26)	02	01	00	00	00	01	0
25	Veterinary Medicine (27)	04	01	01	00	00	02	0
26	Veterinary Microbiology (28)	10	02	01	02	01	04	0
27	Veterinary Parasitology (29)	04	00	00	02	00	02	0
28	Veterinary Pathology (30)	02	01	00	00	00	01	0
29	Veterinary Public Health (32)	04	01	00	01	00	02	0
30	Veterinary Surgery (33)	02	01	00	00	00	01	0
31	Aquaculture (34)	08	01	01	02	01	03	0
32	Fisheries Resource Management (35)	02	00	00	01	00	01	0
33	Fish Processing Technology (36)	01	00	00	00	00	01	0
34	Fish Health (38)	04	00	01	01	00	02	0
35	Fish Genetics & Breeding (39)	01	00	00	00	00	01	0
36	Agricultural Chemicals (40)	10	01	01	03	01	04	1@

37	Agricultural Meteorology (41)	01	00	00	00	00	01	0
38	Agroforestry (42)	04	01	00	01	00	02	0
39	Agronomy (43)	14	02	00	05	02	05	1[$]
40	Environmental Science (44)	04	00	00	02	00	02	0
41	Soil Science (45)	26	03	02	08	03	10	1[%]
42	Agricultural Business Management (46)	02	01	00	00	00	01	0
43	Agricultural Economics (47)	18	03	01	05	02	07	1[#]
44	Agricultural Extension (48)	28	05	03	06	03	11	1[%]
45	Agricultural Statistics (49)	14	02	01	04	01	06	1[#]
46	Home Science (50)	01	00	00	00	00	01	0
47	Farm Machinery & Power (51)	06	01	01	01	01	02	0
48	Land & Water Management Engineering (53)	12	02	01	03	01	05	1[#]
49	Bioinformatics (54)	04	01	00	01	00	02	0
50	Food Technology (55)	02	00	01	00	00	01	0
51	Agricultural Structures & Process Engineering (56)	20	03	02	05	03	07	1[%]
52	Veterinary Anatomy (57)	01	00	00	00	00	01	0
53	Agricultural Physics (58)	02	00	00	01	00	01	0
54	Electronics & Instrumentation (59)	10	02	01	02	01	04	0
55	Textile Manufacture & Technology (60)	04	00	01	01	00	02	0
GRAND TOTAL		**458**	**68**	**34**	**123**	**46**	**187**	

[%]: A. Blindness and low vision.

[@]: B. Deaf and hard of hearing.

[#]: C. Locomotor disability including cerebral palsy, leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attack victims and muscular dystrophy.

&: D. Autism, intellectual disability, specific learning disability, Mental Illness.

[$]: E. Multiple disabilities from amongst persons under categories A to D above, including deaf-blindness.

Note : Further, a candidate belonging to the PwBD category is eligible to apply against all the disciplines.

SECTION (C)

SUBJECT MATTER SPECIALIST (SMS) (T-6)& SENIOR TECHNICAL OFFICER (STO) (T-6)

The Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) (T-6) & Senior Technical Officer (STO) (T-6) Examination is a direct recruitment examination for the post of Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) (T-6) & Senior Technical Officer (STO) (T-6) in Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in Pay Level-10 (₹ 56,100 – 1,77,500) of 7th CPC.

All those candidates desirous of appearing for recruitment to the post of Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) (T-6) & Senior Technical Officer (STO) (T-6) are required to take:

(i) Preliminary Examination (CBT) for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025*(Qualifying)*
(ii) Mains (Descriptive) Examination for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025
(iii) Personal Interview

The details are given in Plan of Examination **(Annexure-XI)**.

2. VACANCIES FOR SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)

The number of vacancies for Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) (T-6) & Senior Technical Officer (STO) (T-6) are given in **Annexure-XII and Annexure-XIII** respectively. The number of vacancies is tentative.

3. RULES OF EXAMINATION

The Rules of Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) (T-6) & Senior Technical Officer (STO) (T-6) Examinationincluding Prescribed Educational Qualifications, Age-Limits and Examination Fee, etc.are given in **Annexure-X**. Candidate must read the Rules of examination carefully before filling up the Online Application form.

4. PLAN OF EXAMINATION

The Detailed Plan of Examination is given in **Annexure–XI.**

5. SYLLABUS:

Syllabus for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6) is common with that of NET/ ARS Disciplines, which is available on ASRB's website.

RULES OF SUBJECT MATTER SPECIALIST (SMS) (T-6) & SENIOR TECHNICAL OFFICER (STO) (T-6) EXAMINATION

The rules for the Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) (T-6) & Senior Technical Officer (STO) (T-6) Examination to be held by the Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board are published for general information.

1. **NATIONALITY**:

A candidate must be either: -

(i) a citizen of India, or
(ii) a citizen of Nepal, or
(iii) a citizen of Bhutan, or
(iv) a Tibetan refugee who came over to India before the 1st January, 1962, with the intention of permanently settling in India, or
(v) a person of Indian origin who has migrated from Pakistan, Burma, Sri Lanka and East African countries of Kenya, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Zaire, Ethiopia and Vietnam with the intention of permanently settling in India.

Provided that a candidate belonging to categories (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) above shall be a person in whose favour a certificate of eligibility has been issued by the Government of India.

2. **AGE LIMITS: -**

A candidate seeking admission to the **SMS (T-6) and STO (T-6) Examination** must have attained the age of **21 years** but not have attained the **age of 35 years on or before 21st May, 2025**.

The upper age limit prescribed above will also be relaxable:-

(i) Upto a maximum of five years if a candidate belongs to SC or ST.
(ii) Upto a maximum of 3 years in the case of candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes, who are eligible to avail of reservation applicable to such candidates, i.e. Non-creamy layer.
(iii) For PwBD candidates, the upper age limit will be relaxable upto a maximum of 10 years. Candidates belonging to SC, ST and OBC who are also covered under the PwBD category will be eligible for grant of cumulative age relaxation under both of their respective categories.
(iv) In terms of ICAR's circular No. 19(25)/2011-E.IV dated 12.12.2011 and 24.1.2012, all the RAs/SRFs who have been engaged on contractual basis in different institutes as on date are eligible for relaxation in the upper age limit to the extent of their spell they were actually engaged as RAs/SRFs in different ICAR projects (subject to a maximum of 16 years 3 months). Such engagement should be continuous without a break of more than six months for getting engaged in other projects of the ICAR.
(v) There will be no age-limit for employee of ICAR
(vi) For Ex-Servicemen/ Disabled Defence Services Personnel as per the existing instructions of the Government of India on the subject.

Save as provided above, the age limits prescribed can in no case be relaxed.

3. **EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:**

A candidate must possess a Master's degree or equivalent in the concerned Discipline as prescribed in Annexure-VI completed **on or before 30.9.2025** from any Indian University incorporated by an Act of Central or State Legislature in India or other educational institution established by an Act of Parliament or declared to be deemed University under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 or he/she must have qualification from a foreign University recognized as equivalent eligibility qualification by the Government of India (GoI).

In the case of ex-servicemen, the equivalence for their qualification will be decided in consultation with the Director-General of the Resettlement, Ministry of Defence.

4. **FEE:-**

The candidates seeking admission to examination must pay to the Board a fee as follows:

S. No.	Category of candidate	For SMS (T-6)& STO (T-6) (₹)
1	Unreserved (UR)	1,000/-
2	Economically Weaker Section (EWS)/ Other Backward Class (OBC)	800/-
3	Scheduled Caste (SC)/ Scheduled Tribe (ST)/Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) / Women/ Transgender	NIL

Transaction charges for Debit Card/Credit Card/ Net Banking/ UPI, as the case may be, have to be borne by the candidate.

NOTE I: APPLICATIONS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY THE PRESCRIBED FEE SHALL BE SUMMARILY REJECTED.

NOTE II: Fee once paid shall not be refunded under any circumstances nor can the fee be held in reserve for any other examination or selection.

NOTE III: OBC candidates whose caste is not listed in Central List (as available on National Commission for Backward Classes website www.ncbc.nic.in) and who are not covered under the provisions as applicable to OBC-Non-Creamy Layer (NCL) candidates shall be treated as General Category candidates for all purposes. Accordingly, OBC Candidates not belonging to OBC Non-Creamy Layer shall indicate their category as 'General'.

5. **RESERVED/RELAXED CATEGORY CANDIDATES**

Candidates who claim to belong to the Scheduled Castes (SC) or Scheduled Tribes (ST) will be required to submit the requisite certificate in the prescribed format as per **Appendix – I**. Otherwise, their claim for SC/ST category will not be considered.

Candidates who claim to belong to Other Backward Classes (OBC) will be required to submit requisite certificate in the prescribed format as per **Appendix-II** from the competent authority as mentioned therein. Otherwise, their claim for OBC status will not be considered. The OBC Certificate in a format other than the prescribed one will not be accepted/considered. The OBC Certificate should have been issued for posts under Govt. of India and not for posts under the respective state of the candidate only.

OBC candidates whose caste is not listed in Central List (as available on National Commission for Backward Classes website www.ncbc.nic.in) and who are not covered

under the provisions as applicable to OBC-Non Creamy Layer (NCL) candidates, shall be treated as General Category candidates for all purposes.

Candidates who claim to be PwBD will be required to submit medical certificates as per disability in the new prescribed applicable format i.e. Form V/VI/VII as per **Appendix-III** issued by the Competent Medical Authorities for the purpose of employment.

Candidates who claim to belong to the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) will be required to submit the requisite certificate in the prescribed format as per **Appendix-IV**. Otherwise, their claim for EWS category will not be considered.

Candidates should be in possession of all the requisite certificates in the prescribed format in support of their claim as stipulated in the Rules for such benefits, and these certificates must be valid at the time of submission of the online application form for the examination.

6. The decision of the Board with respect to the eligibility or otherwise of a candidate for admission to the examination shall be final.

7. No candidate will be admitted to the examination unless he/ she hold a certificate of admission issued by the Board.

8. Any attempt on the part of a candidate to obtain support for his candidature by any means may disqualify him from admission to the examination.

9. There will be a reserve list/panel to fill up the vacancies arising due to non-joining of candidate within the stipulated time allowed for joining the post or where a candidate joins but he/she resigns or dies within a period of one year from the date of his/her joining, if a fresh panel is not available by then.

10. A candidate must be in good mental and bodily health and free from any physical defects likely to interfere with the discharge of his duties as an officer of the service. A candidate, who after such physical examination as the Indian Council of Agricultural Research may prescribe, is found not to satisfy these requirements will not be appointed. Candidates selected by the Board may be required to undergo physical examination. Candidates will be required to pay the fee for the Medical Examination as prescribed by the Government of India for such category of the posts.

11. ***No person:-***
    - **(a)** Who has entered into or contracted a marriage with a person having a spouse living or
    - **(b)** Who, having a spouse living has entered into or contracted a marriage with any person shall be eligible for appointment to the service.

Provided that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, may, if satisfied that such a marriage is permissible under the personal law applicable to such person and the other party to the marriage and there are other grounds for so doing, exempt any person from the operation of this rule.

PLAN OF EXAMINATION FOR SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025

1. The Overall distribution of marks for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025 Examination will be as under:

S.No.	Description	Max. Marks	Duration
1	Preliminary Examination (CBT) for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025*(Qualifying)*	150	2 hours
2	Mains (Descriptive) Examination for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025	300	3 hours
3	Personal Interview	45	-

2. (a) Preliminary Examination (CBT) for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025:

This Preliminary Examinationwill be conducted in CBT mode at the designated Centres. This is aqualifying examination and marks scored will not be counted for final selection. It will have only one paper of 150 marks with all multiple choice objective questions to be attempted in 2 (two) hours, from the respective discipline (Annexure-VI) opted by the candidate. The questions of the Examination will be available in bilingual form i.e. Hindi and English medium. The answers are to be marked on the computer itself during the Examination.

1/3 marks will be deducted for each wrong answer in Preliminary Examination (CBT) for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025 (Objective Type). There will be no rounding off of fractions of marks.

The candidates who obtain following minimum qualifying marks in the Preliminary Examination will be allowed to appear in the Mains (Descriptive) Examination for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025 in the ratio of 1:15 (category-wise) for each post. However, the Board reserves the right to fix/alter the qualifying marks and ratio in any or all Disciplines at its discretion.

Minimum marks required for qualifying Preliminary Examination (CBT) for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025:

Category of candidate	Minimum qualifying marks
Un-reserved (UR)	67.5 (45%)
EWS/ OBC	60.0 (40%)
SC / ST/ PwBD	52.5 (35%)

(b) **Mains (Descriptive) Examination for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025:-**

This Mains Examination will comprise of only one paper of 300 marks (three hours duration) in the respective disciplines with the following pattern:

(i) 25 Questions of 5 marks each (Answer in about 50 words each)
(ii) 10 Questions of 10 marks each (Answer in about 100 words each)
(iii) 05 Questions of 15 marks each (Answer in about 150 words each)

The candidates who obtain such minimum qualifying marks in the Mains Examination as may be fixed by the Board in its discretion, shall be called for Personal Interview in the ratio of 1:3 (category-wise) for each vacancy. However, the Board reserves the right to alter this ratio at its discretion.

Question paper for Mains Examination of SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025 can be answered either in English or Hindi. The Candidate has to indicate his/her medium of examination therefore in the Online Application Form itself. The answers/ scripts attempted in a medium other than the opted one will not be evaluated.

(c) **Personal Interview for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025:**

The candidates will be interviewed by a Board of competent and unbiased experts in the respective disciplines, who will have before them a record of his/her career. The object of the Personal Interview is to assess his/her suitability for the Service for which he/she has competed. The Personal Interview is intended to supplement the written examination for testing the general and specialized knowledge and abilities of the candidate. The candidate will be expected to have taken an intelligent interest not only in his/her own state or country, but also in modern current of thought and in new discoveries, which should rouse the curiosity of well-educated youth.

The technique of the Personal Interviewis not that of strict cross-examination, but of a natural, though directed and purposive conversation intended to reveal the candidate's mental qualities and his/her grasp of problems. The Board will pay special attention to assessing the intellectual curiosity, critical powers of assimilation, balance of judgment and alertness of mind, the ability for social cohesion, integrity of character, initiative and capacity for leadership and scientific research.

NOTE:- Syllabus for the Examination is available on ASRB's website www.asrb.org.in

3. **Examination Procedure**: -

(i) Reserved category candidates who qualify after availing relaxed standard or age relaxation shall render themselves ineligible for UR posts. They will be eligible only for the vacancies which are reserved for respective category in a particular discipline.

(ii) After the Personal Interview, the candidates will be arranged by the Board in the order of merit in each category (discipline-wise) as disclosed by the aggregate marks finally awarded to each candidate. Candidates who obtain such minimum aggregate marks in the written papers and Personal Interview as may be fixed by the Board in its discretion shall be recommended for appointment to SMS (T-6)/ STO (T-6) in accordance with the number of vacancies intimated by the Council under each discipline. Based on the merit, the candidates belonging to reserved categories i.e. SC/ST/OBC/PwBD are also eligible to be considered against the unreserved vacancies, if no relaxation in age or qualifying marks, either in SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025 (Preliminary) or in SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025 (Mains) Examination or in both has been availed by such reserve category candidates. If any concession in age or relaxation in qualifying marks is availed, such candidates will be eligible for consideration only against vacancies reserved for them.

(iii) **Rules for Tie-Breaker**: Wherever two or more candidates have secured equal aggregate marks (marks in Mains (Descriptive)Examination for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025 + Personal Interview) the merit of the candidates shall be determined by applying the following Tie-Breaker Rules:

(a) Candidate securing more marks in the Mains (Descriptive) Examination for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025 will be ranked higher.

(b) In case where the marks mentioned at (a) above are equal, the candidate securing more marks in the Preliminary (CBT) Examination for SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6)-2025 will be ranked higher.

(iv) There will be a reserve list/panel to fill up the vacancies arising due to non-joining of candidate within the stipulated time allowed for joining the post or where a candidate joins but he/she resigns or dies within a period of one year from the date of his/her joining, if a fresh panel is not available by then.

(v) There is no provision of re-evaluation of the answer script and therefore, no request for re-evaluation of the answer script will be entertained. The Board will not enter into any correspondence in this regard.

(vi) Recommendation by the Board for appointment in the SMS (T-6) & STO (T-6) will not be binding unless the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is satisfied after such enquiry as may be considered necessary that the candidate is suitable in all respects for appointment to the Service.

ANNEXURE-XII

VACANCY POSITION FOR SMS (T-6)

S.No.	Code	Discipline	Total	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	UR	PwBD
1	02	Agricultural Entomology	**1**	1	0	0	0	0	0
2	05	Genetics & Plant Breeding	**1**	0	0	1	0	0	0
3	08	Plant Pathology	**4**	1	0	0	0	3	1#
4	10	Seed Science & Technology	**1**	1	0	0	0	0	0
5	12	Fruit Science	**2**	1	0	1	0	0	0
6	13	Spices, Plantation & Medicinal & Aromatic Plants	**1**	1	0	0	0	0	0
7	14	Vegetable Science	**2**	0	0	0	0	2	0
8	19	Animal Physiology	**2**	0	0	0	0	2	0
9	20	Animal Reproduction & Gynaecology	**1**	0	0	1	0	0	0
10	25	Livestock Production Management	**7**	0	1	3	1	2	0
11	32	Veterinary Public Health	**1**	0	0	0	0	1	0
12	34	Aquaculture	**1**	0	0	0	0	1	0
13	35	Fisheries Resource Management	**1**	0	0	0	0	1	0
14	43	Agronomy	**6**	2	1	0	1	2	0
15	45	Soil Science	**4**	0	0	1	1	2	0
16	48	Agricultural Extension	**4**	0	0	0	0	4	0
17	50	Home Science	**1**	0	1	0	0	0	0
18	53	Land & Water Management Engineering	**1**	0	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL			**41**	**7**	**4**	**7**	**3**	**20**	**1**

 # Locomotor disability like cerebral palsy, leprosy cured dwarfism, muscular dystrophy, or acid attack victims.

Note: Further, a candidate belonging to the PwBD Category is eligible to apply against all the disciplines.

VACANCY POSITION FOR STO (T-6)

S.No.	Code	Discipline	Total	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	UR	PwBD
1	01	Agricultural Biotechnology	**3**	1	0	0	0	2	0
2	03	Agricultural Microbiology	**1**	0	0	0	1	0	0
3	05	Genetics & Plant Breeding	**4**	1	0	1	0	2	0
4	07	Plant Biochemistry	**2**	0	1	0	1	0	0
5	08	Plant Pathology	**1**	0	0	1	0	0	0
6	10	Seed Science & Technology	**3**	1	0	0	0	2	0
7	12	Fruit Science	**4**	0	0	0	1	3	0
8	13	Spices, Plantation & Medicinal & Aromatic Plants	**1**	0	0	0	0	1	0
9	20	Animal Reproduction & Gynaecology	**3**	0	0	1	0	2	0
10	24	Livestock Products Technology	**1**	0	0	0	0	1	0
11	25	Livestock Production Management	**5**	0	0	1	2	2	0
12	26	Poultry Science	**1**	0	0	1	0	0	0
13	27	Veterinary Medicine	**2**	0	0	0	1	1	0
14	30	Veterinary Pathology	**1**	0	0	0	0	1	0
15	32	Veterinary Public Health	**1**	0	0	0	0	1	0
16	34	Aquaculture	**4**	0	0	2	0	2	0
17	35	Fisheries Resource Management	**2**	0	0	0	0	2	0
18	36	Fish Processing Technology	**1**	0	1	0	0	0	0
19	37	Fish Nutrition	**1**	0	0	0	0	1	0
20	38	Fish Health	**2**	0	0	0	0	2	0
21	43	Agronomy	**10**	0	0	0	3	7	0
22	45	Soil Science	**14**	1	1	4	2	6	0
23	48	Agricultural Extension	**1**	0	0	1	0	0	0
24	51	Farm Machinery & Power	**3**	0	0	0	0	3	0
25	52	Computer Applications & IT	**1**	0	0	1	0	0	0
26	53	Land & Water Management Engineering	**6**	1	0	0	1	4	0
27	54	Bioinformatics	**1**	0	0	0	0	1	0
28	56	Agricultural Structures & Process Engineering	**1**	0	0	1	0	0	0
29	59	Electronics & Instrumentation	**3**	0	0	0	0	3	0
TOTAL			**83**	**5**	**3**	**14**	**12**	**49**	**0**

Note : A candidate belonging to the PwBD category is eligible to apply against all the disciplines.

FORM OF CERTIFICATE TO BE RPODUCED BY SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE POSTS UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

This is to certify that Shri/Smt./Kumari*_____ son/ daughter* of _____of village/town* _____ in District/ Division*_____ of the State/Union Territory* _____ belongs to the _____ caste/ tribe* which is recognized as a Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe* under:-

@ The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950
@ The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950
@ The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Union Territories Order, 1951
@ The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Union Territories Order, 1951

[as amended by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists (Modification) Order, 1956; the Bombay Reorganization Act, 1960, the Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966, the State of Himachal Pradesh Act, 1970, the North Eastern Area (Reorganization) Act, 1971, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976, the State of Mizoram Act, 1986, the State of Arunachal Pradesh Act, 1986 and the Goa, Daman and Diu (Reorganization) Act, 1987.]

@ The Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Castes Order, 1956
@ The Constitution (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1959, as amended by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Act, 1976
@ The Constitution (Dadar and Nagar Haveli) Scheduled Castes Order, 1962
@ The Constitution (Dadar and Nagar Haveli) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1962
@ The Constitution (Pondicherry) Scheduled Castes Order, 1964
@ The Constitution (Uttar Pradesh) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1967
@ The Constitution (Goa, Daman and Diu) Scheduled Castes Order, 1968
@ The Constitution (Goa, Daman and Diu) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1968
@ The Constitution (Nagaland) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1970
@ The Constitution (Sikkim) Scheduled Castes Order, 1978
@ The Constitution (Sikkim) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1978
@ The Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1989
@ The Constitution (SC) Order (Amendment) Act, 1990
@ The Constitution (ST) Order (Amendment) Act, 1991
@ The Constitution (ST) Order (Second Amendment) Act, 1991
@ The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 2002
@ The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Act, 2002
@ The Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Act, 2002
@ The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Orders (Second Amendment) Act, 2002

%2. Applicable in the case of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes persons who have migrated from one State/ union Territory Administration to another.

This certificate is issued on the basis of the Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes Certificate issued to Shri/Shrimati*_____ father/mother* of Shri/Shrimati/Kumari*_____ of village/town* _____ in District/Division* _____ of the State/ Union Territory* _____ who belongs to the caste/ tribe* which is recognized as a Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe* in the State/ Union Territory* of _____ issued by the _____ dated _____

%3. Shri/Shrimati*/Kumari*_____ and/*or his/her* family ordinarily resides in village/town*_____ of _____ District/Division* of the State/ Union Territory* of _____

Signature_____
**Designation_____
(With Seal of Office)
State/ Union Territory

Place_____
Date_____

* Please delete the words which are not applicable.
@ Please quote specific Presidential Order.
% Delete the paragraph which is not applicable.

NOTE:- The term "ordinarily resides" used here will have the same meaning as in Section 20 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

** List of authorities empowered to issue Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe Certificate:

(i) District Magistrate/ Additional District Magistrate/ Collector/ Deputy Commissioner/ Additional Deputy Commissioner/ Deputy Collector/ 1st Class Stipendiary Magistrate/^ Sub-Divisional Magistrate/ Taluka Magistrate/ Executive Magistrate/ Extra Assistant Commissioner.
^ (not below of the rank of 1st Class Stipendiary Magistrate).
(ii) Chief Presidency Magistrate/ Additional Chief Presidency Magistrate/ Presidency Magistrate.
(iii) Revenue Officers not below the rank of Tehsildar.
(iv) Sub Divisional Officer of the area where the candidate and/or his/her family normally resides.
(v) Administrator/ Secretary to Administrator/ Development Officer (Lakshadweep).

APPENDIX - II

FORM OF CERTIFICATE TO BE PRODUCED BY OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES APPLYING FOR APPOINTMENT TO POSTS UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

This is to certify that Shri/Smt./Kumari _____ son/daughter of _____ of village/town _____ in District/Division _____ in the State/Union Territory _____ belongs to the _____ community which is recognized as a backward class under the Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment's Resolution No. _____ dated _____*. Shri/Smt./Kumari _____ and/or his/her family ordinarily reside(s) in the _____ District/Division of the _____ State/Union Territory. This is also to certify that he/she does not belong to the persons/sections (Creamy layer) mentioned in Column 3 of the Schedule to the Government of India, Department of Personnel and Training O.M. No. 36012/22/93-Estt. (SCT) dated 8.9.1993, O.M. No. 36033/3/2004-Estt. (Res) dated 9.3.2004, O.M. No. 36033/3/2004-Estt. (Res) dated 14.10.2008 and O.M. No. 36033/1/2013-Estt. (Res) dated 27.05.2013

District Magistrate,
Deputy Commissioner etc.

Dated

SEAL

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*- The authority issuing the certificate may have to mention the details of Resolution of Government of India, in which the caste of the candidate is mentioned as OBC.
**- As amended from time to time.

Note:- The term "Ordinarily" used here will have the same meaning as in Section 20 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

Appendix-III

Form – V
Disability Certificate
(In case of Single Disability)
[See Rule 18(1)]
(Name and Address of the Medical Authority Issuing the Certificate)

Recent Passport size photograph (Showing face only) of the person with disability

Certificate/ UDID No. Date of Issue :

This is to certify that I/we have carefully examined _____, Son/Daughter/Care of _____, Date of Birth _____; Gender _____, Registration No. _____ (UDID Enrolment No.) _____, Resident of _____ _____ whose photograph is affixed above, and I am/we are satisfied that :

(A) He / She is a case of (Any one of the following disabilities) :

i. Locomotor Disability
ii. Muscular Dystrophy
iii. Leprosy Cured
iv. Dwarfism
v. Cerebral Palsy
vi. Acid Attack Victim
vii. Low Vision
viii. Blindness
ix. Hearing Impairment
x. Speech and Language Disability
xi. Intellectual Disability
xii. Specific Learning Disabilities
xiii. Autism Spectrum Disorder
xiv. Mental Illness
xv. Chronic Neurological Conditions
xvi. Multiple Sclerosis
xvii. Parkinson's Diseases
xviii. Haemophilia
xix. Thalassemia

xx. Sickle Cell Disease

(B) Name of affected body part :

(C) The diagnosis in his/her case is _____

(D) He / She has _____% (in figure) _____percent (in words) disability and the nature of certificate is _____ (Permanent / temporary and valid till _____) as per the guidelines for the purpose of assessing the extent of specified disability in a person included under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 notified by Government of India vide Notification No. _____ dated _____.

Signature / Thumb impression of the Person with Disability:

Signature of notified Medical Authority Member(s):

Signature:

Name and Address of the Medical Authority Issuing the Certificate:

Form – VI
Disability Certificate
(In case of Multiple Disabilities)
[See Rule 18(1)]
(Name and Address of the Medical Authority Issuing the Certificate)

Recent Passport size photograph (Showing face only) of the person with disability

Certificate/ UDID No. Date of Issue:

This is to certify that we have carefully examined _____, Son/Daughter/Care of _____, Date of Birth _____, Gender _____, Registration No. _____ (UDID Enrolment No.) _____, Resident of _____ whose photograph is affixed above, and we are satisfied that:

(A) He / She is a case of Multiple **Disabilities.** His / her extent of physical impairments / disabilities have been evaluated as per the guidelines for the purpose of assessing the extent of specified disability in a person included under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 notified by Government of India vide (Notification No. _____ dated _____ for the disabilities below :

Sl.No.	Disability	Name of Affected Body Part	Diagnosis	Disability percentage
1.	Locomotor Disability			
2.	Muscular Dystrophy			
3.	Leprosy Cured			
4.	Dwarfism			
5.	Cerebral Palsy			
6.	Acid Attack Victim			
7.	Low Vision			
8.	Blindness			
9.	Hearing Impairment			
10.	Speech and Language Disability			
11.	Intellectual Disability			
12.	Specific Learning Disabilities			
13.	Autism Spectrum Disorder			
14.	Mental Illness			
15.	Chronic Neurological Conditions			
16.	Multiple Sclerosis			
17.	Parkinson's Diseases			
18.	Haemophilia			
19.	Thalassemia			
20.	Sickle Cell Disease			

(Note : Only the disabilities diagnosed will be listed)

(B) He / She has _____% (in figure) _____percent (in words) overall disability and the nature of certificate is _____ (Permanent / temporary and valid till _____).

Signature / Thumb impression of the Person with Disability:

Signature of notified Medical Authority Member(s):

Signature:
Name and Address of the Medical Authority Issuing the Certificate:

Government of _____
(Name & Address of the authority issuing the certificate)

INCOME & ASSET CERTIFICATE TO BE PRODUCED BY ECONOMICALLY WEAKER SECTIONS

Certificate No. _____ Date: _____

VALID FOR THE YEAR _____

This is to certify that Shri/Smt./Kumari _____ son/daughter/wife of _____ permanent resident of _____, Village/Street _____ Post. Office _____ District _____ in the State/Union Territory _____ Pin Code _____ whose photograph is attested below belongs to Economically Weaker Sections, since the gross annual income* of his/her 'family'** is below ₹ 8 lakh (Rupees Eight Lakh only) for the financial year _____. His/her family does not own or possess any of the following assets***:

I. 5 acres of agricultural land and above;
II. Residential flat of 1000 sq. ft. and above;
Ill. Residential plot of 100 sq. yards and above in notified municipalities;
IV. Residential plot of 200 sq. yards and above in areas other than the notified municipalities.

2. Shri/Smt./Kumari _____ belongs to the _____ caste which is not recognized as a Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Classes (Central List).

Signature with seal of Office _____
Name _____
Designation _____

Recent Passport size attested photograph of the applicant

*__Note 1:__ Income covered all sources i.e. salary, agriculture, business, profession, etc.
**__Note 2:__ The term '__Family__" for this purpose include the person, who seeks benefit of reservation, his/her parents and siblings below the age of 18 years as also his/her spouse and children below the age of I8 years
***__Note 3:__ The property held by a "Family' in different locations or different places/cities have been clubbed while applying the land or property holding test to determine EWS status.

APPENDIX-V

EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATE

(On official Letter Head of the Institute/ University/Department/Ministry)

It is certified that Sh./Smt./Dr. _____(Name) is working as _____(Designation) in this Institute/University/Department/Ministry. His/her initial date of appointment in the Institute/University/Department/Ministry is _____. His/her Pay Level as per 7th CPC Pay Matrix is _____. He/she is a regular employee of this Institute/ University/Department/Ministry.

This Institute/University/Department/Ministry has no objection to his/her applying for Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) (T-6) and Senior Technical Officer (STO) (T-6) Examination-2025 conducted by Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board.

( )
Registrar/Vice-Chancellor/
Competent Authority

NOTE: A copy of appointment letter, Joining Order and Official Identity Card may also be enclosed.